



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

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March 25, 1998

Supervisor Tim Smith
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Supervisor Smith:

Thank you for your letter dated 6 November 1997 in which you expressed concern about the lack of Category III funding allocated in 1997 to projects in the North Bay and Suisun Marsh. Proposals were selected for funding based on the priority species and habitats listed in the July 1997 Request for Proposal. However, restoration actions in the North Bay were recently reviewed by the CALFED Policy Group. Due to several overriding principles, the Policy Group has recommended funding five additional North Bay proposals with 1998 restoration funds. In addition, CALFED partners and stakeholders are beginning the task of identifying the priorities to be used to guide future funding cycles; be assured that your concerns about the North Bay and Suisun Marsh have been heard.

For your information, I have enclosed a list of the North Bay/Suisun Marsh projects funded through the 1997 and initial 1998 project selection process. To date, a total of 79 projects and \$85 million has been recommended for funding system wide. Of this, \$6.2 million (7%) has gone to projects which directly relate to the North Bay and Suisun Marsh. The remainder of the 1998 Category III funds will be allocated through a "focused grant" process to be announced in early April. We anticipate that we will receive, and consider funding, additional North Bay/Suisun Marsh proposals at that time.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Cindy Darling, Restoration Coordinator, at (916) 657-2666.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

cc: Senator Mike Thompson, Sacramento

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service